# CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS SUBSTATION, MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

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# ABSTRACT

This study reports on an intensive cultural resources survey of a 1.73 acre tract in the central portion of Marlboro County, north of the town of Bennettsville, South Carolina. The work, conducted for Mr. Tommy L. Jackson of Central Electric Power Cooperative, is meant to assist this client in complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The tract is to be used by Central Electric Power Cooperative for the construction of the Federal Bureau of Prisons Substation. The work is situated next to an existing transmission line on S-9.

This survey was conducted to identify and assess archaeological and historical sites that may be in the project area. For this study an area of potential effect (APE) about 0.5 mile around the proposed tract was assumed. The proposed undertaking will require clearing of the tract, followed by construction of the proposed facility. These activities have the potential to affect archaeological and historical sites in the area. It should be noted that the area is currently affected by an existing transmission line.

Consultation with the S.C. Department of Archives and History revealed no previously identified NRHP sites, but seven previously surveyed architectural sites recorded by the Louis Berger Group (McClane and Meyers 2000) were found within the 0.5 mile APE. Site 030-0012.00 and 030-0012.01, the ca. 1905 Level Green United Methodist Church and Cemetery, site 030-0021, late nineteenth to early twentieth century Cox House, site 030-0022, ca. 1930 store/gas station, site 030-0023, ca. 1900 Pate House, and 030-0024, an early twentieth century burned house, were all determined not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. Site 030-0020, the ca. 1941 Marlboro Aviation School/Palmer Field, was determined eligible under Criterion A.

An investigation of the archaeological site files at the S.C. Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology identified five sites. Sites 38ML260, 38ML267, 38ML271, and 38ML275 are all late nineteenth to early twentieth century domestic sites, while 38ML272 is a late nineteenth to early twentieth century refuse area with a prehistoric lithic scatter. All sites were recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register.

The archaeological survey of the tract incorporated shovel testing at 100-foot intervals on transects laid out at 100-foot intervals. All shovel test fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh and the shovel tests were backfilled at the completion of the study. A total of 11 shovel tests were excavated along 4 transect lines. One archaeological site (38ML280) was identified as a result of these investigations. This site consists of a twentieth century domestic site which lacks integrity and the ability to address significant research questions. The site is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register .

A survey of public roads within a mile of the proposed undertaking was conducted in an effort to identify any architectural sites over 50 years old which also retained their integrity. Five of the seven originally recorded structures were found during this survey (McClane and Meyers 2000). The remaining two, 030-0022, the ca. 1930 store/gas station, and 030-0024, the early twentieth century burned house, had been destroyed prior to this survey. We concur with the previous determination of not eligible for sites 030-0012.00-01– the Level Green United Methodist Church and Cemetery which had received several alterations, could not contribute to significant local history, and does not possess distinctive physical characteristics, 030-0021–the late nineteenth to early twentieth century Cox house which does not contain significant design characteristics or is

likely to yield important historic information, and 030-0023–the ca. 1900 Pate house which does not contain significant design characteristics or is likely to yield important historic information. The eligible site, 030-0020–Marlboro Aviation School, will not be impacted by the substation due to a line of trees which will provide a shield between the two properties.

Finally, it is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered in the project area during clearing activities. Crews should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office or to Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No construction should take place in the vicinity of these late discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

# LIST OF FIGURES



# LIST OF TABLES

# INTRODUCTION

This investigation was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Tommy Jackson of Central Electric Power Cooperative. The work was conducted to assist Central Electric Power Cooperative comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the regulations codified in 36CFR800.

The project site consists of approximately 1.73 acres of land, located in the cental portion of Marlboro County, north of Bennettsville (Figure 1). The substation is situated next to an existing transmission line along S-9 (Figure 2).

The proposed tract, as previously mentioned, is intended to be used as a substation. Landscape alteration, primarily clearing and construction, including erection of new transformers, and long-term maintenance of the substation, will damage the ground surface and any archaeological resources which may be present in the survey area.

Construction, operation, and maintenance of the substation may also have an impact on historic resources in the project area. The project will not directly effect any historic structures (since none are located on the survey parcel), but the completed facility may detract from the visual integrity of historic properties, creating what many consider discordant surroundings. As a result, this architectural survey uses an area of potential effect (APE) within a 0.5 mile radius around the proposed survey tract.

This study, however, does not consider any future secondary impact of the project, including increased or expanded development of this portion of Marlboro County.

We were requested by Mr. Tommy Jackson of Central Electric Power Cooperative to conduct a cultural resources survey for the proposed substation on January 10, 2003. This incorporated a review of the site files at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. As a result of that work, five sites (38ML260, 38ML267, 38ML271, 38ML272, and 38ML275) were recorded in the 0.5 mile APE. Site 38ML260 is a late nineteenth to early twentieth century homesite with existing chimneys and refuse scatter, 38ML267 is a late nineteenth to early twentieth century refuse area, 38ML271 is a late nineteenth to early twentieth century domestic site, 38ML272 is a late nineteenth to early twentieth century refuse area and prehistoric lithic scatter, and 38ML275 is a late nineteenth to early twentieth century refuse scatter. All five sites have been previously recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (McClane and Meyers 2000).

In addition, the South Carolina Department of Archives and History GIS was consulted to check for any NRHP buildings, districts, structures, sites, or objects in the study area. No NRHP sites were found within 0.5 mile of the survey area. The Louis Berger Group, Inc. (McClane and Meyers 2000) performed an architectural survey for the Federal Correctional Institution which identified seven resources within the 0.5 mile APE. Site 030-0012.00-01 is the ca. 1905 Level Green United Methodist Church and Cemetery which have been both determined not eligible for the NRHP. Site 030-0020 is the ca. 1941 Marlboro Aviation School/Palmer Field which has been determined eligible for the NRHP. Site 030-0021 is the late nineteenth to early twentieth century Cox house which has been determined not eligible for the NRHP. Site 030-0022 is the ca. 1930 store/gas station which has been determined not eligible for the NRHP. Site 030-0023 is the ca. 1900 Pate house which has been determined not eligible for the NRHP. Site 030-0024 is an early twentieth century burned house which was determined not eligible for the NRHP.

Archival and historical research was limited to a review of secondary sources available in the Chicora Foundation files.

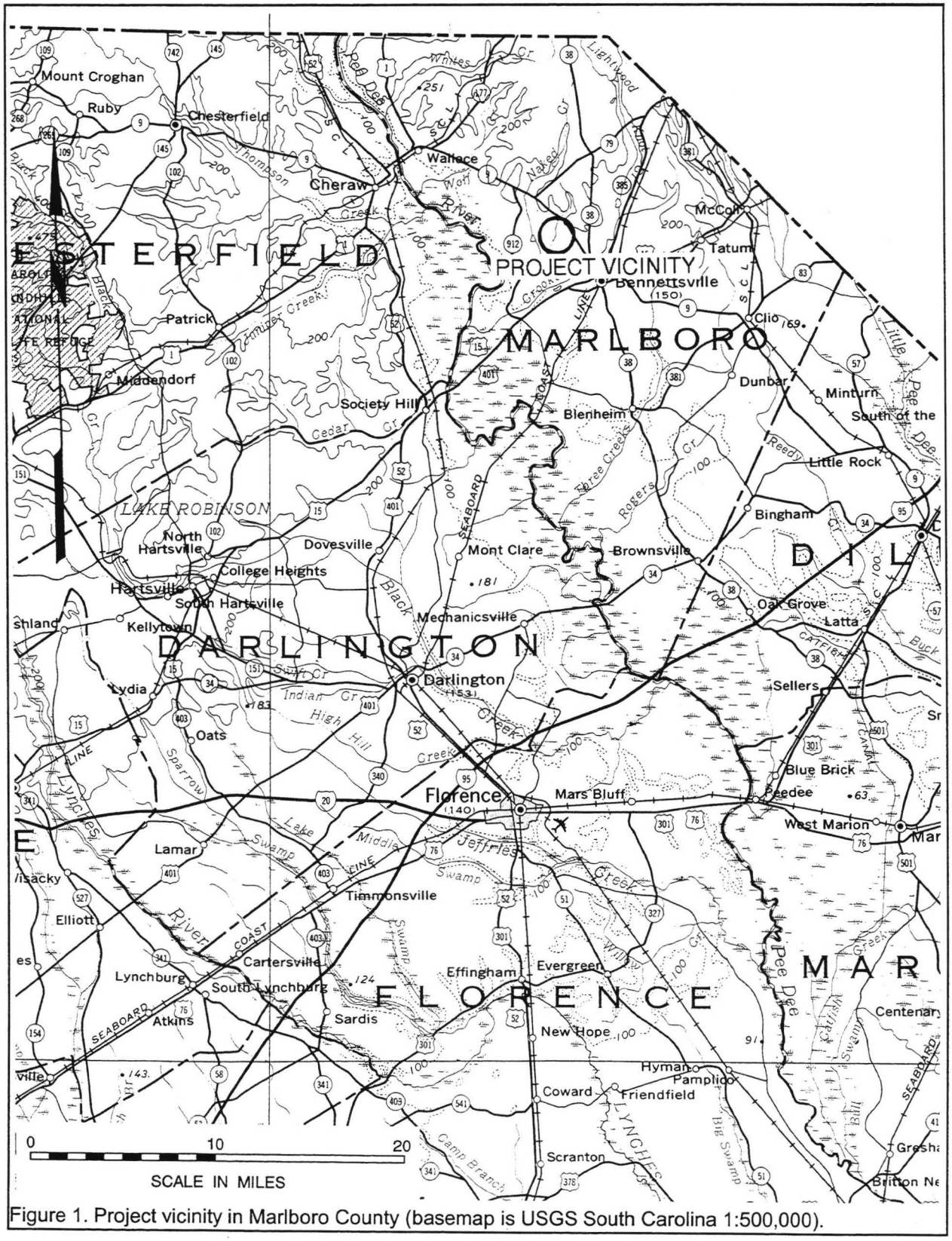


Figure 1. Project vicinity in Marlboro County (basemap is USGS South Carolina 1:500,000).

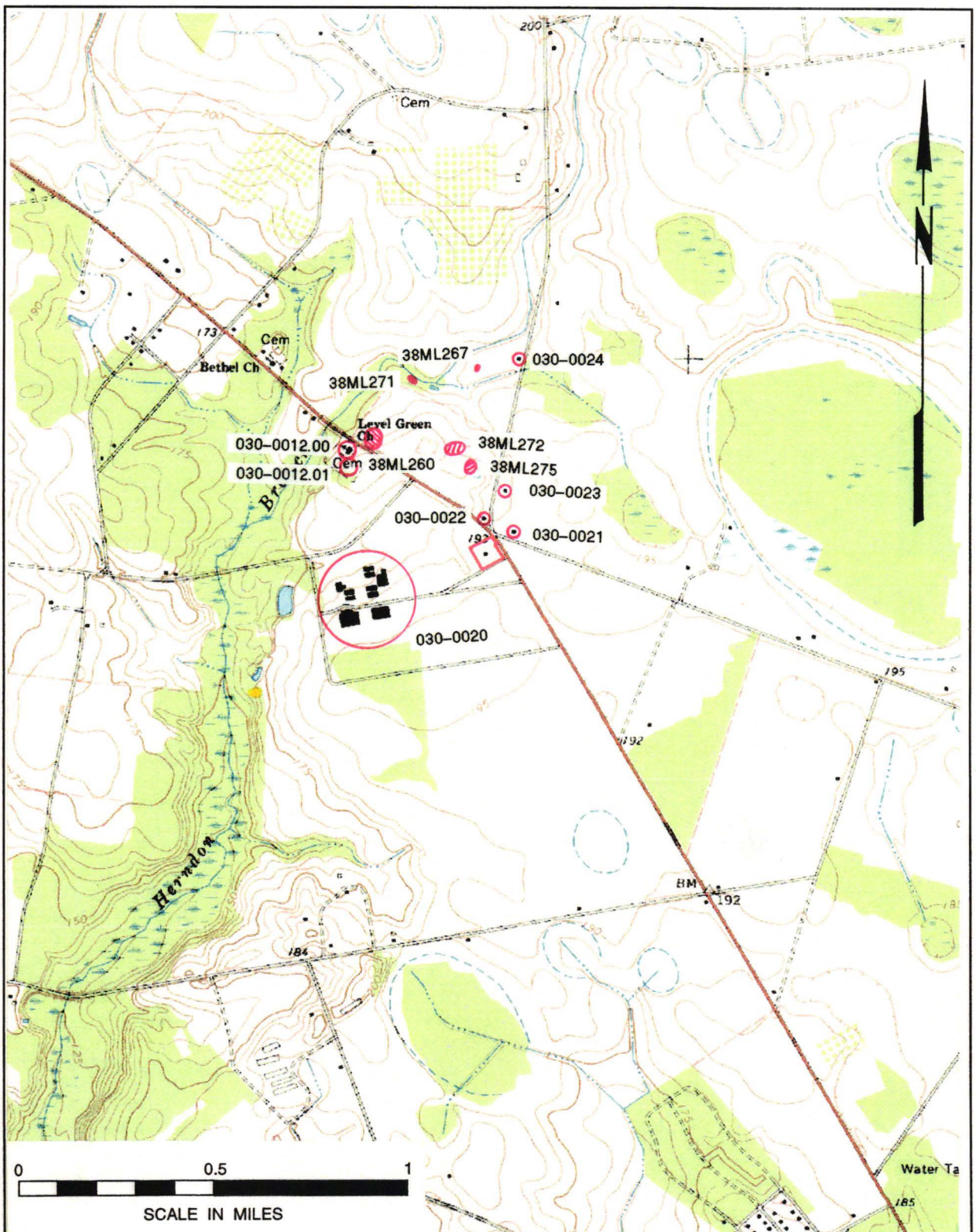


Figure 2. Project tract and previously identified sites (basemap is USGS Bennettsville North 7.5').

The archaeological survey was conducted on January 27, 2003 by Mr. Tom Covington under the direction of Dr. Michael Trinkley and revealed no archaeological sites. Report production was conducted at Chicora's laboratories in Columbia, South Carolina from January 29-31, 2003.

# NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

## Physiography and Geology

The survey tract is situated in the Upper Coastal Plain, south of the Fall Line and the Sand Hills found in the northern corner of the County. Elevations in the Upper Coastal Plain range from 100 to 270 feet above mean sea level (AMSL), with the topography being gently rolling. As Kovacik and Winberry (1987:20) observe, it can be very difficult to distinguish the Upper Coastal Plain from that of the Sand Hills or even the lower Piedmont. The flatter, and almost featureless, Coastal Plain topography is found further to the southeast, south of the Citronelle Escarpment (Orangeburg Scarp).

Marlboro County is drained by the Great Pee Dee River. Originating in North Carolina with the confluence of the Yadkin and Uwharrie rivers near Badin, North Carolina, the Pee Dee crosses the Fall Line in northern Marlboro County and begins its slow movement through a wide, swampy flood plain to the Atlantic Ocean.

Mills observed that the county was dominated by the Pee Dee which, "by its meanders washes the district for sixty miles" (Mills 1972 [1826]:632). The river was navigable for almost its entire distance through Marlboro County and much of the bottomland was cultivated. The smaller drainages "furnish margins of excellent soil; but little of this is yet brought into cultivation (Mills 1972 [1826]:630).

Metamorphic and volcanic rocks of the Carolina Slate Belt outcrop north of the survey area in Anson County, North Carolina and west along the fall line in Lancaster, northern Chesterfield, and Kershaw counties in South Carolina. Mills referred to these areas as the "granite, or primitive formation" (Mills 1972 [1826]:629). The rest of the district, including the survey area, was part of the "alluvial region" where the "light and sandy" soils were underlaid by a "clay bottom" (Mills 1972 [1826]:630). Today we recognize the complex geology of the Upper Coastal Plain where there are bedded sands overlaying kaolinic clays and clayey, quartzose sands (Murphy 1995:93).

## Soils

The survey area is situated near the Pee Dee in an area characterized by the Norfolk-Ruston-Marlboro soil association – soils which have developed from sediments from the Piedmont Plateau and the Coastal Plain (Craft 1965).

Figure 3. View of pines and hardwoods on the survey tract.

The survey area consists of one soil series – Lakeland sand (Craft 1965). These soils have a surface layer of grayish brown (10YR5/2) loose sand to a depth of 0.8 foot over a yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy loam which can occur over 3.5 feet in depth. This soil has a low permeability, but has a slightly higher fertility level than Lakeland sands with a lower slope which make them suitable for cultivation.

## Floristics

In the early nineteenth century Mills comments that the river lands – especially those adjacent to the Great Pee Dee – were dominated by "the finest timber trees, composed of the cypress, sycamore, cotton-tree, the various kinds of oak, sweet gum, hickory, chestnut, poplar, bay, and a number of others" (Mills 1972 [1826]:633). In contrast, the uplands were dominated by pines. This situation is largely unchanged today. On the bluffs overlooking the rivers there is a pine-hardwood community dominated by loblolly pine, hickory, and various oaks. On the lower slopes the vegetation is dominated by species tolerant of the wetter conditions, such as white oak, sweet gum, willow oak, and black gum. In the river floodplains there are sweet gum, laurel oak, water hickory, and tupelo (Kovacik and Winberry 1987:45).

The survey area has been overgrown with pines and hardwoods (Figure 3).

## Climate

Mills observed that the initial large planters settled on the rivers and swamps and regarded the small interior sand farmers as "a kind of curiosity, and half savage" (Mills 1972 [1826]:634). Eventually they realized that it was those interior sandy areas with good drainage that reduced the risk of malaria and he reported that "the owners and overseers now fly to these very sand hills, as the sickly months approach."

This portion of South Carolina is dominated by the movement of systems across the country, but there are relatively few complete exchanges of air masses in the summer. This results in few breaks in the midsummer heat, with temperatures ranging from the high 80s to the mid-90s. In contrast, winters are mild and relatively short. There are 46 inches of annual precipitation, with over 22 inches falling in the growing season (Craft 1965).

# PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC SYNOPSIS

## Previous Research

Marlboro County is not a particularly well studied part of South Carolina. There are, for example, only 14 reports for the county listed by Derting et al. (1991). Of these, nearly two-thirds (n=9) are the result of relatively small, or at least constrained, surveys associated with compliance projects. The remaining five studies include a county-wide historic preservation plan (of virtually no use archaeologically), two studies on the coffin hardware of the Clio General Store in northern Marlboro County, and two studies of the Cheraw or Pee Dee Indians. None of these studies are specific to the area currently being examined. Only one study has been performed near the current survey tract for the Federal Correctional Institution (McClane and Meyers 2000).

## Prehistory of the Region

The Paleoindian period, lasting from 12,000 to 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points, side scrapers, end scrapers; and drills (Coe 1964; Michie 1977; Williams 1968). The Paleoindian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Artifacts are most frequently found along major river drainages, which Michie interprets to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124).

Unfortunately, little is known about Paleoindian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization. Generally, archaeologists agree that the Paleoindian groups were at a band level of society (see Service 1966), were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on the isolated finds, is thought to have been low, Walthall suggests that toward the end of the period, "there was an increase in population density and in territoriality and that a number of new resource areas were beginning to be exploited" (Walthall 1980:30).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 2000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleo-Indian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. Associated with this is a reliance on a broad spectrum of small mammals, although the white tailed deer was likely the most commonly exploited mammal. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the South Carolina coastal plain and piedmont. Archaic period assemblages, exemplified by corner-notched and broad-stem projectile points, are fairly common, perhaps because the swamps and drainages offered especially attractive ecotones.

In the Coastal Plain of the South Carolina there is an increase in the quantity of Early Archaic remains, probably associated with an increase in population and associated increase in the intensity of occupation. While Hardaway and Dalton points are typically found as isolated specimens along riverine environments, remains from the following Palmer phase are not only more common, but are also found in both riverine and interriverine settings. Kirks are likewise common in the coastal plain (Goodyear et al. 1979).

The two primary Middle Archaic phases found in the coastal plain are the Morrow Mountain and Guilford (the Stanly and Halifax complexes identified by Coe are rarely encountered). Our best information on the Middle Woodland comes from sites investigated west of the Appalachian Mountains, such as the work in the Little Tennessee River Valley. The work at Middle Archaic river valley sites, with their evidence of a diverse floral and faunal subsistence base, seems to stand in stark contrast to Caldwell's Middle Archaic "Old Quartz Industry" of Georgia and South Carolina, where axes, choppers, and ground and polished stone

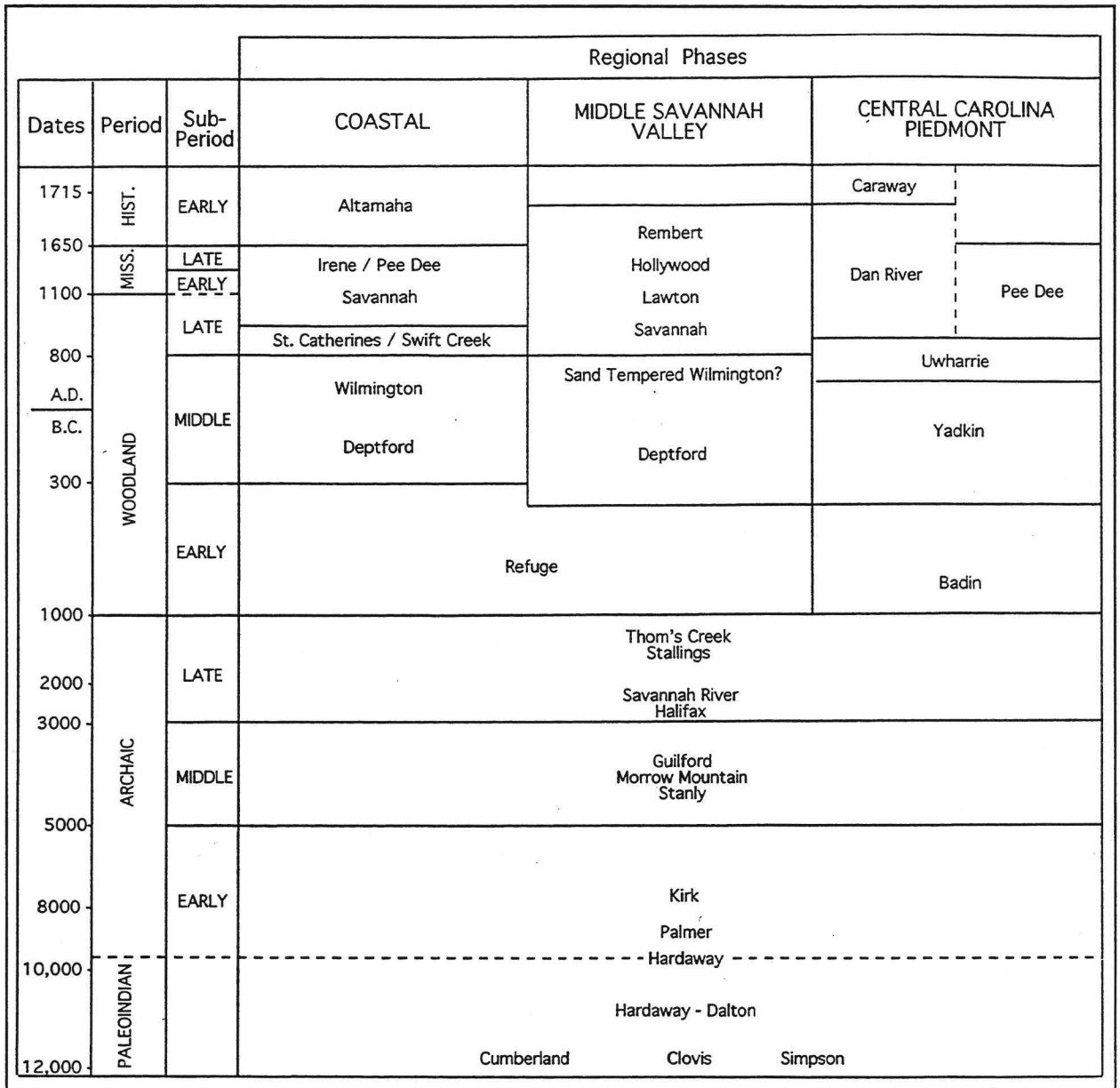


Figure 4. Generalized cultural sequence for South Carolina.

tools are very rare.

The Late Archaic is characterized by the appearance of large, square stemmed Savannah River projectile points (Coe 1964). These people continued the intensive exploitation of the uplands much like earlier Archaic groups. The bulk of our data for this period, however, comes from work in the Uwharrie region of North Carolina.

The Woodland period begins by definition with the introduction of fired clay pottery about 2000 B.C. along the South Carolina coast (the introduction of pottery, and hence the beginning of the Woodland period, occurs much later in the Piedmont of South Carolina). It should be noted that many researchers call the period from about 2500 to 1000 B.C. the Late Archaic because of a

perceived continuation of the Archaic lifestyle in spite of the manufacture of pottery. Regardless of terminology, the period from 2500 to 1000 B.C. is well documented on the South Carolina coast and is characterized by Stallings (fiber-tempered) pottery. The subsistence economy during this early period was based primarily on deer hunting and fishing, with supplemental inclusions of small mammals, birds, reptiles, and shellfish.

Like the Stallings settlement pattern, Thom's Creek sites are found in a variety of environmental zones and take on several forms. Thom's Creek sites are found throughout the South Carolina Coastal Zone, Coastal Plain, and up to the Fall Line. The sites are found into the North Carolina Coastal Plain, but do not appear to extend southward into Georgia.

In the Coastal Plain drainage of the Savannah River there is a change of settlement, and probably subsistence, away from the riverine focus found in the Stallings Phase (Hanson 1982:13; Stoltman 1974:235-236). Thom's Creek sites are more commonly found in the upland areas and lack evidence of intensive shellfish collection. In the Coastal Zone large, irregular shell middens, small, sparse shell middens; and large "shell rings" are found in the Thom's Creek settlement system.

The Deptford phase, which dates from 1100 B.C. to A.D. 600, is best characterized by fine to coarse sandy paste pottery with a check stamped surface treatment. The Deptford settlement pattern involves both coastal and inland sites.

Inland, sites such as 38AK228-W, 38LX5, 38RD60, and 38BM40 indicate the presence of an extensive Deptford occupation on the Fall Line and the Coastal Plain, although sandy, acidic soils preclude statements on the subsistence base (Anderson 1979; Ryan 1972; Trinkley 1980). These interior or upland Deptford sites, however, are strongly associated with the swamp terrace edge, and this environment is productive not only in nut masts, but also in large mammals such as deer. Perhaps the best data concerning Deptford "base camps" comes from the Lewis-West site (38AK228-W), where evidence of abundant food remains, storage pit features, elaborate material culture, mortuary behavior, and craft specialization has been reported (Sassaman et al. 1990:96-98).

Throughout much of the Coastal Zone and Coastal Plain north of Charleston, a somewhat different cultural manifestation is observed, related to the "Northern Tradition" (e.g., Caldwell 1958). This recently identified assemblage has been termed Deep Creek and was first identified from northern North Carolina sites (Phelps 1983). The Deep Creek assemblage is characterized by pottery with medium to coarse sand inclusions and surface treatments of cord marking, fabric impressing, simple stamping, and net impressing. Much of this material has been previously designated as the Middle Woodland "Cape Fear" pottery originally typed by South (1976). The Deep Creek wares date from about 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1 in North Carolina, but may date later in South Carolina. The Deep Creek settlement and subsistence systems are poorly known, but appear to be very similar to those identified with the Deptford phase.

The Deep Creek assemblage strongly resembles Deptford both typologically and temporally. It appears this northern tradition of cord and fabric impressions was introduced and gradually accepted by indigenous South Carolina populations. During this time some groups continued making only the older carved paddle-stamped pottery, while others mixed the two styles, and still others (and later all) made exclusively cord and fabric stamped wares.

The Middle Woodland in South Carolina is characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupation. On the southern coast it is associated with the Wilmington phase, while on the northern coast it is recognized by the presence of Hanover, McClellanville or Santee, and Mount Pleasant assemblages. The best data concerning Middle Woodland Coastal Zone assemblages comes from Phelps' (1983:32-33) work in North Carolina. Associated items include a small variety of the Roanoke Large Triangular points (Coe 1964:110-111), sandstone abraders, shell pendants, polished stone gorgets, celts, and woven marsh mats. Significantly, both primary inhumations and cremations are found.

On the Coastal Plain of South Carolina,

researchers are finding evidence of a Middle Woodland Yadkin assemblage, best known from Coe's work at the Doerschuk site in North Carolina (Coe 1964:25-26). Yadkin pottery is characterized by a crushed quartz temper and cord marked, fabric impressed, and linear check stamped surface treatments. The Yadkin ceramics are associated with medium-sized triangular points, although Oliver (1981) suggests that a continuation of the Piedmont Stemmed Tradition to at least A.D. 300 coexisted with this Triangular Tradition. The Yadkin series in South Carolina was first observed by Ward (1978, 1983) from the White's Creek drainage in Marlboro County, South Carolina. Since then, a large Yadkin village has been identified by DePratter at the Dunlap site (38DA66) in Darlington County, South Carolina (Chester DePratter, personal communication 1985) and Blanton et al. (1986) have excavated a small Yadkin site (38SU83) in Sumter County, South Carolina. Research at 38FL249 on the Roche Carolina tract in northern Florence County revealed an assemblage including Badin, Yadkin, and Wilmington wares (Trinkley et al. 1993:85-102). Anderson et al. (1982:299-302) offer additional typological assessments of the Yadkin wares in South Carolina.

Over the years the suggestion that Cape Fear might be replaced by such types as Deep Creek and Mount Pleasant has raised considerable controversy. Taylor, for example, rejects the use of the North Carolina types in favor of those developed by Anderson et al. (1982) from their work at Mattassee Lake in Berkeley County (Taylor 1984:80). Cable (1991) is even less generous in his denouncement of ceramic constructs developed nearly a decade ago, also favoring adoption of the Mattassee Lake typology and chronology. This construct, recognizing five phases (Deptford I - III, McClellanville, and Santee I), uses a type variety system.

Regardless of terminology, these Middle Woodland Coastal Plain and Coastal Zone phases continue the Early Woodland Deptford pattern of mobility. While sites are found all along the coast and inland to the Fall Line, shell midden sites evidence sparse shell and artifacts. Gone are the abundant shell tools, worked bone items, and clay balls. Recent investigations at Coastal Zone sites such as 38BU747 and 38BU1214, however, have provided some evidence of worked bone and shell items at Deptford phase middens (see Trinkley 1990).

In many respects the South Carolina Late Woodland may be characterized as a continuation of previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblages. While outside the Carolinas there were major cultural changes, such as the continued development and elaboration of agriculture, the Carolina groups settled into a lifeway not appreciably different from that observed for the previous 500 to 700 years (cf. Sassaman et al. 1990:14-15). This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex (see Ferguson 1971).

The South Appalachian Mississippian Period (ca. A.D. 1100 to 1640) is the most elaborate level of culture attained by the native inhabitants and is followed by cultural disintegration brought about largely by European disease. The period is characterized by complicated stamped pottery, complex social organization, agriculture, and the construction of temple mounds and ceremonial centers. The earliest phases include the Savannah and Pee Dee (A.D. 1200 to 1550).

## Historic Overview

The early history of Marlboro was succinctly presented by Mills:

> Soon after Braddock's defeat [reference to General Edward Braddock and his disastrous defeat in the Ohio Valley at the hands of the French] the frontier inhabitants of Virginia and Pennsylvania began to move southwardly; and this section of the state was settled by a few of them. The progress of population was slow previous to the Indian treaty, in 1755; after which it began to increase; but received several checks, until the close of the revolutionary war, when a considerable accession took place (Mills 1972

[1826]:629).

Much of this early settlement occurred in the area called Welsh Neck or Tract. Not strictly a township, a large portion, from Crooked Creek to Hunt's Bluff, had been granted in small parcels by 1746 to such individuals as Daniel Lewis, Samuel Wilds, and Daniel James. These, and other Welch, came largely from Pennsylvania, attracted by the possibility of plants and crops such as hemp, flax, wheat, and barley (Wallace 1951:155).

McColl remarked that the first court house, built about 1787, was located near the Pee Dee River:

> very near the road to Gardner's Bluff, not very far from the river and very close to the present cross roads leading from Bennettsville to Gardner's Bluff and from Evans' or Matheson's Mill to Cheraw (McColl n.d.:78).

Mills also notes that the court house was built close to the banks of Crooked Creek and remarked that:

> there was built there three or four stores, and five or six dwelling houses, but no tavern. The village was called Winfieldsville (Mills 1972 [1826]:631).

Mills also observed that the earliest settlements were consistently located along the Pee Dee River, an area thought, at the time, to be healthy. In fact, "the inhabitant of the sandy interior was deemed, upon the river, a king of curiosity, and half savage" (Mills 1972 [1826]:634). As the years passed, however, the planters began moving inland, into the sand hills, to get away from the swamps and the associated fevers and miasmas. Consequently, the court house was moved to its current location in Bennettsville in 1818. A brick court house and jail were erected in 1821 (rebuilt in 1852, 1885, and 1952). Bennettsville, named for Governor Thomas Bennett (1820-1822), remained a sleepy, small town until after the Civil War.

One author remarked that:

> Prior to the war the citizens of the sand hill section did but little in an agricultural way, and their main industry was the raising of cattle and hogs, which roamed at large through the extensive forests (Gibson 1902:5).

Where agriculture was practiced, it is clear from Mills that it was of the most ruthless kind:

> the same ruinous system of cultivation practiced in other places is prevalent here. One piece of land after another is exhausted, and abandoned; nothing like farming; no husbandry of the natural advantages of the soil; forest after forest is felled, and reduced to ashes, without regard to the consequences of such waste (Mills 1972 [1826]:637).

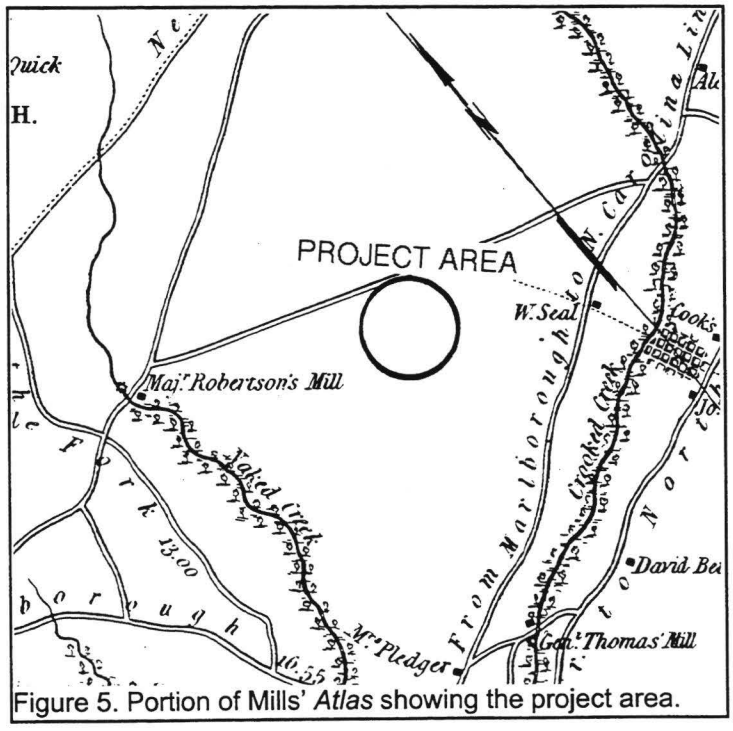

Figure 5. Portion of Mills' *Atlas* showing the project area.

Mills' *Atlas* of 1825 (Figure 5) shows no settlement in the survey area. In fact, very few settlements are shown in the surrounding area.

Prior to the Civil War many areas of Marlboro District became well known for their extensive mills, including those of General Thomas, Major Robinson, and Major Pledger (Mills 1972 [1826]:632). About five miles north of Bennettsville Mr. Meekins Townsend built a water powered cotton mill on Crooked Creek. Gibson notes that, "a beautiful factory village occupied the high sandy level ridge east of the mill, " and that the mill burned shortly before the Civil War (Gibson 1902:16).

In 1850, on the verge of the Civil War, Marlboro County was about evenly divided between whites and African American slaves (5033 to 5600). With 621 farms, only six counties had a smaller agricultural base. In spite of this, Marlboro ranked 16th in cotton production, with 9501 bales. Other significant crops included Indian corn and wheat (DeBow 1854:304-305).

The Civil War was not particularly kind to Marlboro. Sherman's army passed through the county on its way from Columbia, South Carolina to Fayetteville, North Carolina. Nearly all the ginneries, some of the mills, and many of the residences were destroyed. Sherman and Howard both had their camps along Crooked Creek, in the vicinity of Goodwin's Upper and Lower Mills.

Like elsewhere in South Carolina the economy of Marlboro County was essentially destroyed. Renting and wage labor were the most common forms of black farm labor as late as 1884, although there were about 100 farms comprising 3000 acres owned by blacks (compared to about 6000 acres in 200 farms owned by whites) (Anonymous 1884). Significantly, 200 gins, 44 lumber mills, and 16 flour or grist mills were in operation only 20 years after the Civil War.

Col. C.S. McColl established a thriving mercantile business in the 1870s and eventually owned at least nine plantations, including Appin, Dundee, Steward, Islay, Pipkin, Cook, Ervin, Spears, and Cotton Hill. Described as a "100 plow" farm, as late as 1901 he planted 1600 acres in cotton, 600 acres in corn, and 300 acres in wheat and oats. He produced over 1000 bales of cotton a year and 1100 pounds of cotton seed per acre. Gibson remarks:

> his mill . . . is only 2½ miles west of town, on Crooked Creek, very fine water power, splendid ginnery and corn mill. The pond is well stocked with fish and the numerous ducks afford exhilarating and enjoyable sport (Gibson 1902:7).

McColl's amalgamation of plantations, however, was unusual and most agriculture was conducted by "two, three, or four plows," where the farms are small and largely worked only their owner (Gibson 1902:7).

The number of Marlboro farms operated by owners declined from 818 in 1900 to 697 in 1910 and 454 by 1930. Through this period the

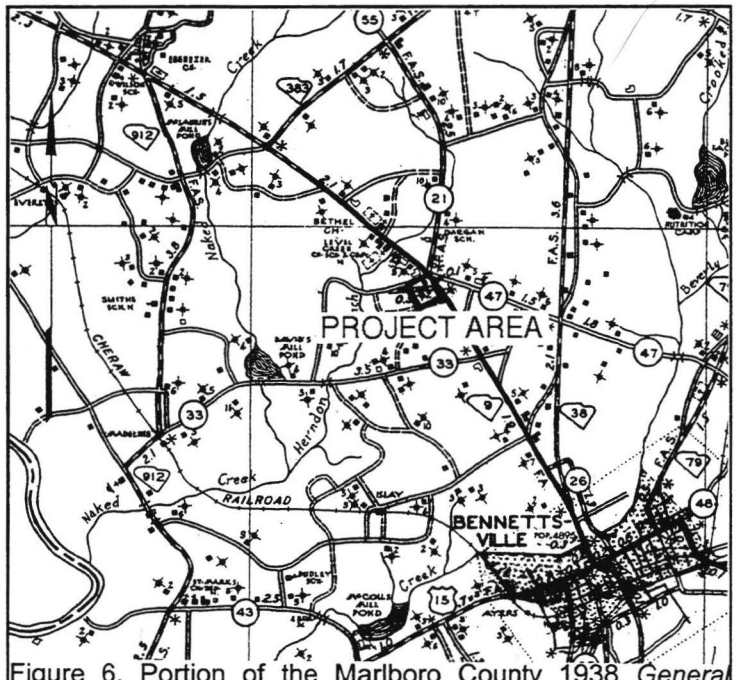


Figure 6. Portion of the Marlboro County 1938 *General Highway and Transportation Map.*

number of acres of cotton remained steady between 86,000 and 82,000 acres, although the yields fell dramatically from over 74,000 bales to less than 34,000 bales (Thirteenth Census of the United States: 1010 and Fifteenth Census of the United States: 1930).

The 1938 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Marlboro County* (Figure 6) reveals one structure that appears to be close if not in the survey area. No standing structures are presently on the survey tract. Modern glass and plastic was found which may represent the badly disturbed remains of this structure.

# RESEARCH METHODS

## Archaeological Field Methods

The initially proposed field techniques involved the placement of shovel tests at 100-foot intervals along transects placed at 100-foot intervals.

All soil would be screened through ¼-inch mesh, with each test numbered sequentially by transect. Each test would measure about 1 foot square and would normally be taken to a depth of at least 1.0 foot or until subsoil was encountered. All cultural remains would be collected, except for mortar and brick, which would be quantitatively noted in the field and discarded. Notes would be maintained for profiles at any sites encountered.

Should sites (defined by the presence of three or more artifacts from either surface survey or shovel tests within a 50 feet area) be identified, further tests would be used to obtain data on site boundaries, artifact quantity and diversity, site integrity, and temporal affiliation. These tests would be placed at 25 to 50 feet intervals in a simple cruciform pattern until two consecutive negative shovel tests were encountered. The information required for completion of South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site forms would be collected and photographs would be taken, if warranted in the opinion of the field investigators.

These proposed techniques were implemented with no significant modifications. As previously reported, the survey area was located mostly in pines and hardwoods. A series of four transects were established running west to east along S-9. Individual shovel tests were numbered to the north along these transects. A total of eleven shovel tests were implemented.

Sites would be evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead agency in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

Analysis of collections would follow professionally accepted standards with a level of intensity suitable to the quantity and quality of the remains.

## Architectural Survey

As previously discussed, we elected to use a 0.5 mile area of potential effect (APE). The terrain is flat with no high points in which to see the substation. In addition, a busy four lane highway and existing transmission lines currently affect the area. The architectural survey would record buildings, sites, structures, and objects which appeared to have been constructed before 1950. Typical of such projects, this survey recorded only those which "retain some measure of its historic integrity" (Vivian n.d.:5) and which were visible from public roads.

For each identified resource we would complete a Statewide Survey Site Form and at least two representative photographs were taken. Permanent control numbers would be assigned by the Survey Staff of the S.C. Department of Archives and History at the conclusion of the study. The Site Forms for the resources identified during this study would be submitted to the S.C. Department of Archives and History.

## Site Evaluation

Archaeological sites will be evaluated for further work based on the eligibility criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead federal agency, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

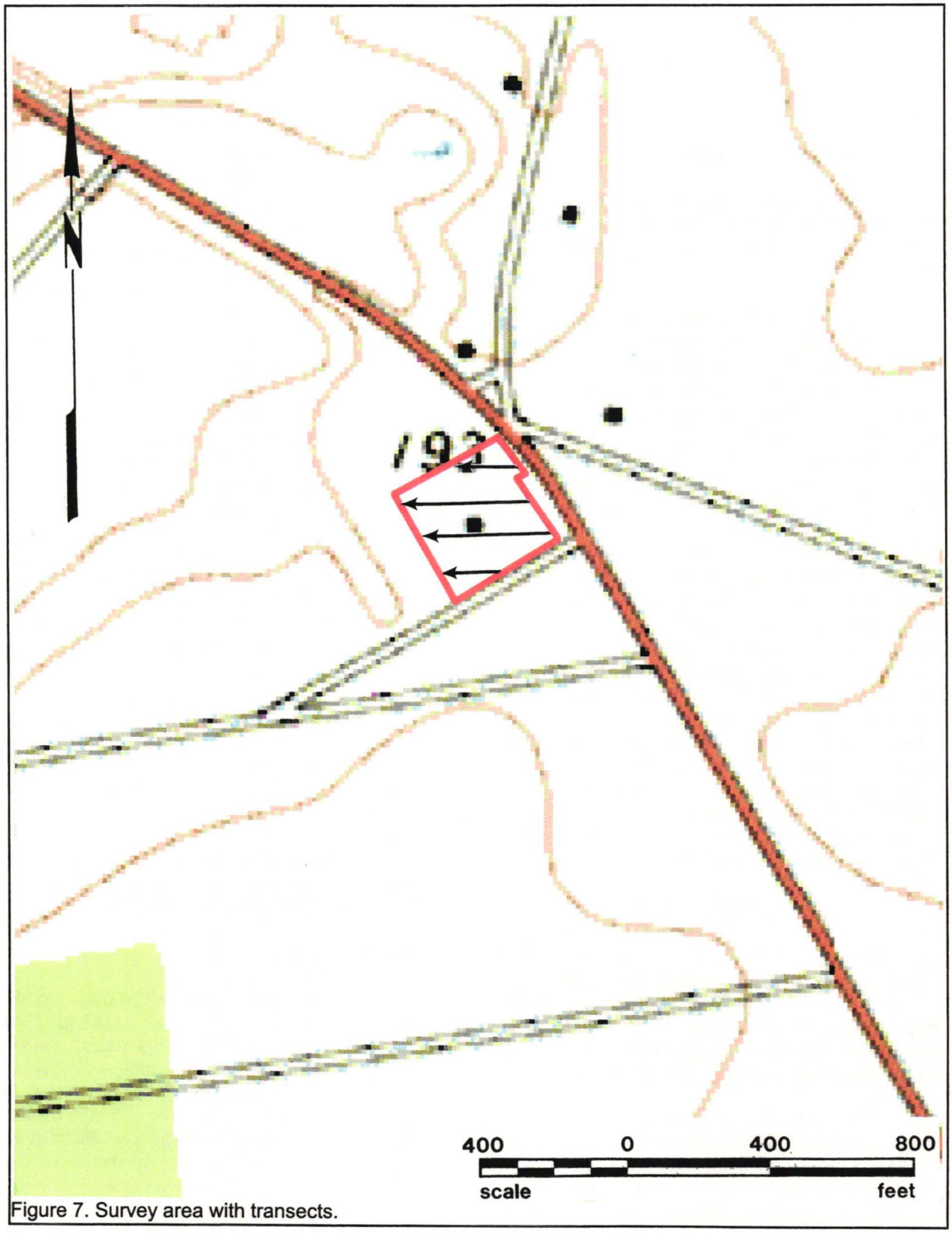


Figure 7. Survey area with transects.

The criteria for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places is described by 36CFR60.4, which states:

> the quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and
>
> a. that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
>
> b. that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or
>
> c. that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
>
> d. that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

*National Register Bulletin 36* (Townsend et al. 1993) provides an evaluative process that contains five steps for forming a clearly defined explicit rationale for either the site's eligibility or lack of eligibility. Briefly, these steps are:

- identification of the site's data sets or categories of archaeological information such as ceramics, lithics, subsistence remains, architectural remains, or sub-surface features;
- identification of the historic context applicable to the site, providing a framework for the evaluative process;
- identification of the important research questions the site might be able to address, given the data sets and the context;
- evaluation of the site's archaeological integrity to ensure that the data sets were sufficiently well preserved to address the research questions; and
- identification of important research questions among all of those which might be asked and answered at the site.

This approach, of course, has been developed for use documenting eligibility of sites being actually nominated to the National Register of Historic Places where the evaluative process must stand alone, with relatively little reference to other documentation and where typically only one site is being considered. As a result, some aspects of the evaluative process have been summarized, but we have tried to focus on an archaeological site's ability to address significant research topics within the context of its available data sets.

For architectural sites the evaluative process was somewhat different. Given the relatively limited architectural data available for most of the properties, we focus on evaluating these sites using National Register Criterion C, looking at the site's "distinctive characteristics." Key to this concept is the issue of integrity. This means that the property needs to have retained, essentially intact, its physical identity from the historic period.

Particular attention would be given to the integrity of design, workmanship, and materials. Design includes the organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials. As *National Register Bulletin* 36 observes, "Recognizability of a property, or the ability of a property to convey its significance,

depends largely upon the degree to which the design of the property is intact" (Townsend et al. 1993:18). Workmanship is evidence of the artisan's labor and skill and can apply to either the entire property or to specific features of the property. Finally, materials — the physical items used on and in the property — are "of paramount importance under Criterion C" (Townsend et al. 1993:19). Integrity here is reflected by maintenance of the original material and avoidance of replacement materials.

## Laboratory Analysis

Since the artifacts were modern, they were evaluated and discarded in the field. Detailed notes were taken at each shovel test of the contents found. The site form for the identified site has been filed with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. Field notes have been prepared for curation using archival standards and will be transferred to the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology as soon as the project is complete.

# RESULTS OF SURVEY

## Introduction

As a result of this cultural resources survey one site (38ML280) was identified. The site is recommended not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places due to lack of integrity and inability to address significant research questions.

The architectural survey identified no sites which would individually be eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The seven previously identified resources recorded by The Louis Berger Group (McClane and Meyers 2000) were re-evaluated due to the proximity of some of the resources to the current survey tract.

Two of the resources, 030-0022, the ca. 1930 store/gas station and 030-0024, the early twentieth century burned house, were no longer standing.

The Marlboro Aviation School, 030-0020, while determined eligible for the National Register, will be shielded from view by a line of pines between the two properties.

We concur with the determinations of not eligible for the remaining structures. The ca. 1905 Level Green United Methodist Church and Cemetery (030-0012.00-01) has received several alterations and does not contribute to significant local history. In addition, these resources cannot be seen from the current survey area. The late nineteenth to early twentieth century Cox house (030-0021) has received several alterations to its structure and it also does not contribute to significant local history. Although located across the street from the survey area, the house is shielded by pines and the substation will not be clearly visible from the property. The ca. 1900 Pate house does not contain any significant architectural details or contributes to significant local history. Although the house is in direct view of the substation, it is unlikely the substation will have any measurable affect given the busy four lane highway that currently divides the properties.

## Archaeological Resources

### 38ML280

Site 38ML280 is a twentieth century domestic site situated on a ridge saddle at an

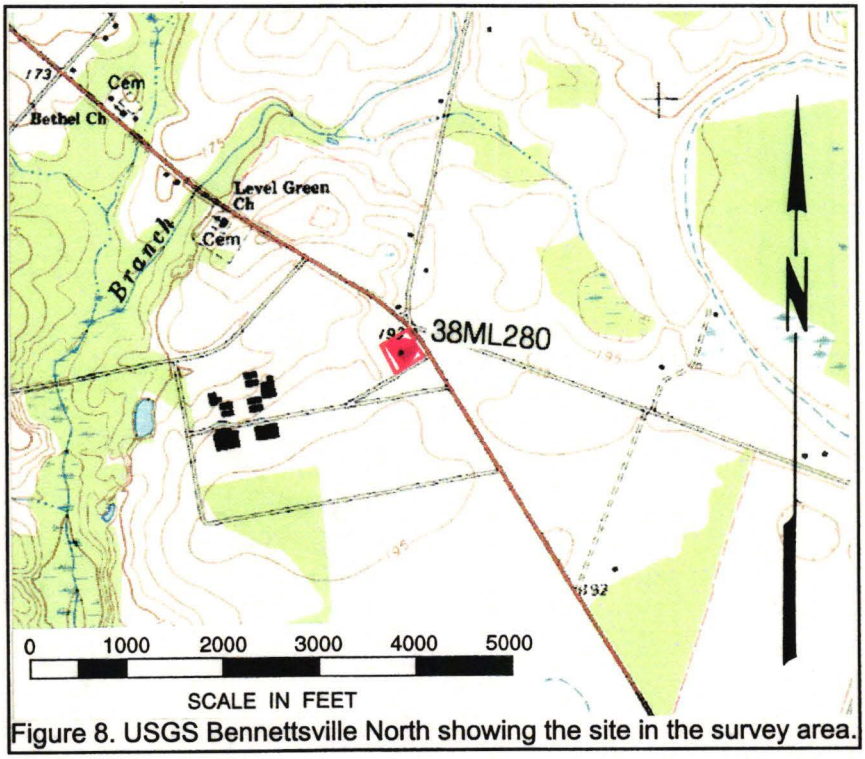

Figure 8. USGS Bennettsville North showing the site in the survey area.

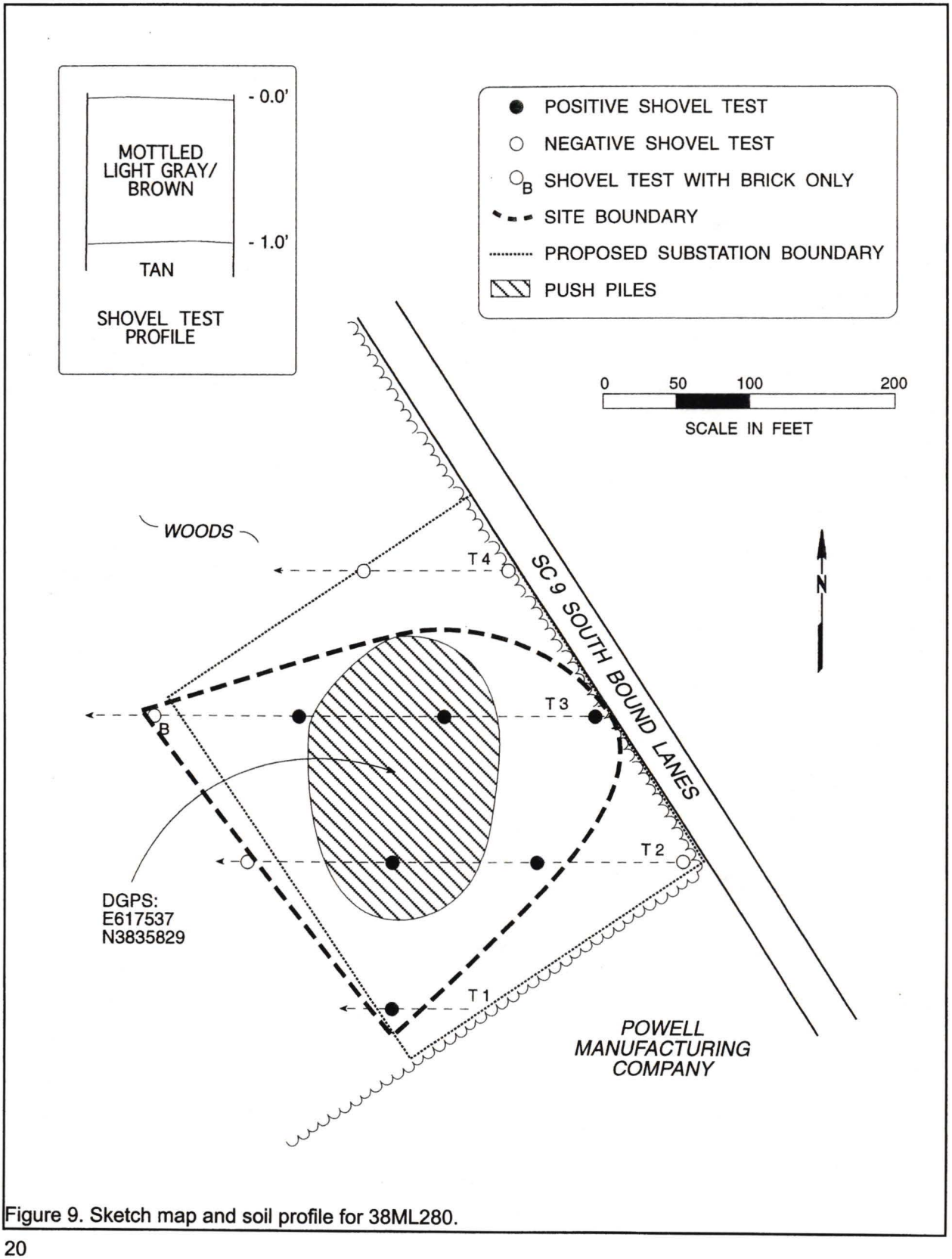


Figure 9. Sketch map and soil profile for 38ML280.

Figure 10. View of push piles on the survey tract.

elevation of about 190 feet AMSL (Figure 8). Vegetation in the area consists of mixed pines and hardwoods, although much of the surrounding area is being rapidly developed with a four lane highway running adjacent to the site.

Shovel testing was performed at the originally proposed 100-foot intervals with seven of the eleven shovel tests performed in the survey area positive. However, the materials recovered, which included modern clear glass, modern brown glass, and wire cut nails were not collected because they did not appear to predate 1950. In addition we did not feel that additional close-interval testing was necessary given the materials were modern and thus are not typically eligible for the National Register. A list of the artifacts noted in the shovel tests is provided in Table 1.

Although shovel tests in this area tend to produce Lakeland sands which have a surface layer of grayish brown (10YR5/2) loose sand to a depth of 0.8 foot over a yellowish brown (10YR5/6) sandy loam which can occur over 3.5 feet in depth, the site had been bulldozed which created mottled soils indicating soil mixing and heavy disturbance. Large push piles consisting of roofing tin and brick were also centrally located (Figure 10). These suggest that whatever was present at the site has been moved and redeposited, perhaps to facilitate burning. An estimated site dimension is about 275 north-south to 300 east-west.

No ceramics or other dateable material was found at this site. The 1938 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Marlboro County*

Table 1.
Artifacts found at 38ML280

| | | T2 ST 2 | T2 ST 3 | T3 ST 1 | T3 ST 2 | T3 ST 3 | T3 ST 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Kitchen Group** | | | | | | | |
| | Glass, clear | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | |
| | Glass, brown | 2 | | | | 3 | |
| **Architecture Group** | | | | | | | |
| | Window glass | | | | | 2 | |
| | Wire cut nail | | | | 2 | | |
| | Brick | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | Yes |

shows a structure in the vicinity of the project area. While this could be the same structure that was found during the current survey, no artifacts were found that suggest a date earlier than 1950. This may mean that either these are not the same structures or the structure shown on the historic map had undergone extensive modifications. The 2000 survey by the Louis Berger Group (McClane and Meyers 2000) did not record the structure which suggests that it was either already bulldozed or in ruinous condition.

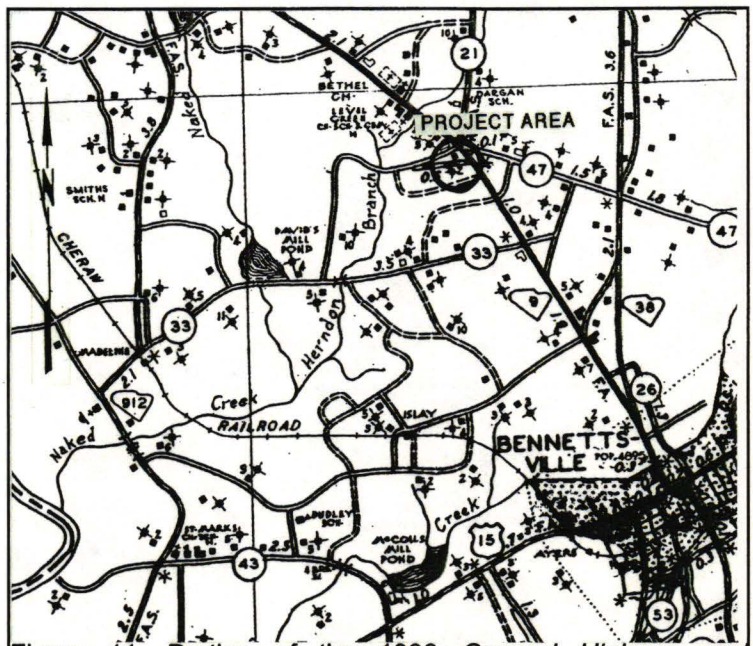

Figure 11. Portion of the 1938 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Marlboro County.*

Given the modern artifacts, the mottled soils, and the extensive bulldozing which has severely damaged the integrity, we do not believe that this site can address any significant research questions. Since the artifacts do not appear to predate 1950, the site would typically be not eligible for the National Register. If the structure is indeed the structure shown on the 1938 *General Highway and Transportation Map of Marlboro County*, the integrity has been severely damaged and the artifacts recovered would not be able to address any significant research questions.


Figure 12. Level Green United Methodist Church (030-0012.00).

This site is recommended not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. No additional management activity is recommended pending the review and concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office.

## Historic and Architectural Resources

The seven originally identified resources recorded by the Louis Berger


Figure 13. Marlboro Aviation School (030-0020).

Group (McClane and Meyers 2000) and located in the current APE were revisited and current photographs were taken. No additional structures beyond those previously recorded were identified for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Resources 030-0012.00 and 030-0012.01, the ca. 1905 Level Green United Methodist Church and Cemetery, were both determined not eligible according to the SHPO GIS (Figure 12). The church had received several alterations including a rear addition in 1979, interior renovations in 1992, and vinyl siding and storm windows in 1993 (McClane and Meyers 2000:58). In addition, the Gothic Revival design is common for the region. the proposed substation lot cannot be seen from the church and cemetery lot, so there will be no adverse effect.

The Marlboro Aviation School, also known as Palmer Field (030-0020) is now the site of the Powell Manufacturing Company (Figure 13). This is the only resource that has been determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The


Figure 14. View toward substation lot from the Marlboro Aviation School (030-0020) with the arrow marking the location of the proposed substation.

Figure 15. Cox house (030-0021), view of the northwest side.

of the facility and its original nature, the substation is not out of character and will not affect the site's integrity of setting or location.

Site 030-0021 is the late nineteenth to early twentieth century Cox house (Figure 15). the house was determined not eligible due to "several additions and alterations" which included a roof addition, a possible second-story porch enclosure, and the addition of columns as supports (McClane and Meyers 2000:75). Although the house is located across the road from the proposed substation lot, it is shielded by pine trees (Figure 16). In addition, the road which divides the house lot from the substation lot is four

site dates to 1941 when it was a World War II Army Air Corps training facility (McClane and Meyers 2000:72). Approximately fifteen buildings are on the site, which is now used to produce agricultural machinery. The site is within direct view of the proposed substation, although a line of trees may shield portions of the substation (Figure 14). Currently, a transmission line runs next to the property, so the substation, which will be located about 1,200 feet away, will not provide any significant visual impact. The facility is also affected by a busy four lane highway which runs adjacent. Finally, considering the current use

Figure 16. View of the Cox house (030-0021) from the substation lot.

Figure 17. Lot where the store/gas station (030-0022) once stood.

lanes which denotes a fairly busy highway. The addition of a substation will not be clearly visible and the area is rapidly growing with the highway already immediately adjacent to the structure.

Site 030-0022 was the location of a ca. 1930 store/gas station (Figure 17). The structure no longer exists.

Site 030-0023 is the ca. 1900 Pate house which has been determined not eligible for the National Register (Figure 18). The construction design is common and did not appear to possess any other elements crucial for inclusion on the NRHP (McClane and Meyers 2000:83). This structure can be seen from the current survey tract, however, the busy four lane highway already creates discordant surroundings, so it is unlikely that a substation will have any measurable affect (Figure 19).

Site 030-0024 was an early twentieth century burned house. This structure is no longer standing.

No additional structures were identified within the APE.

Figure 18. View of the Pate house (030-0023).

Figure 19. View of the Pate house (030-0023) from the substation lot.

# CONCLUSIONS

This study involved the examination of approximately 1.73 acres of land for the proposed Federal Bureau of Prisons Substation. The project area is located in the central portion of Marlboro County, north of the town of Bennettsville. This work, conducted for Central Electric Power Cooperative, examined archaeological sites and cultural resources found on the proposed project area and is intended to assist this organization in complying with their historic preservation responsibilities.

The survey consists of an area of mixed pines and hardwoods. The archaeological survey which included shovel testing, conducted at 100-foot intervals along transects placed at 100-foot intervals, revealed mottled soils and produced one site, 38ML280. This site is a twentieth century domestic site an does not have the integrity or appear to predate 1950. The site is also unable to address significant research questions. Site 38ML280 is recommended not eligible for the National Register.

The surrounding area is still fairly rural, although four lane highway runs next to the project tract.

A survey of historic sites was conducted within a 0.5 mile APE. Only one site has been recorded which is eligible for the National Register, the Marlboro Aviation School (0030-0020). However, this resource will be screened from the substation by a line of woods located on the property. The property has been used for some time as an industrial facility. the proposed substation lot, even if visible, will not affect the integrity of either the setting or location. No additional potentially eligible sites were identified.

It is possible that archaeological remains may be encountered during construction activities. As always, contractors should be advised to report any discoveries of concentrations of artifacts (such as bottles, ceramics, or projectile points) or brick rubble to the project engineer, who should in turn report the material to the State Historic Preservation Office, or Chicora Foundation (the process of dealing with late discoveries is discussed in 36CFR800.13(b)(3)). No further land altering activities should take place in the vicinity of these discoveries until they have been examined by an archaeologist and, if necessary, have been processed according to 36CFR800.13(b)(3).

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